Vol. XI. Numb. 33.

THE OBSERVATOR.

On the Treaty at Utrecht, *and the Declaration of the Confederates to the* French *Plenipotentiarys if they don't give in their Answer in Writing. The Folly of our Faction, who justify that Obstinacy of the* French. *On the Death of the Pretender's Sister, and the News of his being dead himself, or past hopes of Recovery. The Murmurers against the* Hanover *Succession like* Corah *and his Associates.*

From **Saturday**, April 19. to **Wednesday**, April 23. 1712.

Countrym. WHat d'ye think of the Peace now, Master? I fancy our Frenchify'd Peace-mongers are a little down in the Mouth upon the Declaration of the Confederate Plenipotentiarys at *Utrecht*, 'That it is below 'the Dignity of the High Allies to have their 'Plenipotentiarys thus trifled with; and, That 'they will meet the *French* no more, except 'they signify to them beforehand, that they 'have receiv'd Orders from the *French* Court to 'deliver their Answer in Writing.'

Obs. No doubt, *Roger*, our *French* Faction is somewhat mortify'd now that they find they have spent their Breath to so little purpose. All their false Reasonings for a separate Peace; all their Invectives against the Confederates; and all the treacherous Arts they have made use of to divide 'em, are come to nothing; So that, were they capable of blushing, they would from henceforward cease to extol *Lewis* XIVth's Sincerity, and forbear to libel our Allies for not falling in with the *French* Method of Treating.

Countrym. Why truly, Master, I ever thought the Arguments of the *French* Advocates for treating by Word of Mouth ridiculous, and that it was a plain Declaration that they and their Masters intended nothing by it but to gain Time, and to trick the Confederates, if they could; for whatever the Highflying Parson of our Parish and our Tory 'Squire did say to the contrary, I never could see any Reason why the *French* should refuse to treat in Writing, since it is plain, that whatever Articles were agreed on betwixt them and the Confederates, must be reduced to Writing at last.

Obs. Your Observation is very just, *Roger:* So that they might as well plead for a Verbal Treaty, as for Treating only by Word of Mouth; and all the World knows that such a Treaty could be no manner of Security. For the *French* to be sure would make no scruple of eating in and denying their Words, as they have hitherto done their most solemn Oaths and Transactions, and the Allies could have nothing to produce against them but their own Word in opposition to theirs.

Countrym. That's very plain, Master; and so we should have had a Wordy Business of it indeed, which would have amounted to no more than this, that You lye, and You lye; and so from Words they must have again fell to Swords.

Obs. You are certainly right, honest *Roger*; therefore our Faction, and particularly *Abel's* Masters, have discover'd as little Sense as Honesty, by pleading for this way of Treating. No body ever deny'd that there was a Necessity of Discourse as well as Writing; but the Result of those Discourses and Conferences must certainly have been set down in Black and White, otherwise there could have been nothing but wrangling *ad Infinitum*. Besides, it is plain that the *French*, tho they were pleas'd to charge the Confederates with acting *Tyrannically* towards them when they insisted on a Specifick Answer in Writing to their Specifick Demands, did act the part of Tyrants themselves; for no Reason can be assign'd but the insolent and treacherous Inclinations of the *French* Court to refuse an Answer in Writing, since the Allies had given in their Demands in Writing.

Countrym. But what d'ye say, Master, to the Instances which *Abel's* Masters and others have insisted upon from the Practice of the *Dutch* at the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, to prove that they might as well treat by Word of Mouth now as they did then?

Obs. Allowing those Instances to be true, *Roger*, which certainly they are not as *Abel's* Masters have given us them, for which we appeal to their own Vouchers *D' Estrades's* Letters, it would amount to no more than this, That the *Dutch* were trick'd by that way of Treating at *Nimeguen*, and therefore that they have not a mind to be trick'd again in the same manner at *Utrecht*. We need no more to prove this than the Matter of Fact insisted upon in the Declarations of War by the States against *France* in 1688, and 1702. wherein they charge the *French* King with such manifest Infractions upon the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, *Ryswick*, *&c.* as cannot be deny'd. Nor is it the Evidence of the *Dutch* alone, but that of all the Confederates, which proves this matter beyond possibility of Contradiction. Let any Man cast his Eye on the List of the Reunions which *Lewis* XIV. had fraudulently made after the Treaty of *Nimeguen* in the Low Countrys, besides what he did in *Germany* and elsewhere, the Evidence is so glaring, that none but our Faction, who are guilty of the like Crimes, can resist the force of it.

Countrym. Where are these Evidences to be found, Master? I would pray you to tell it for the Benefit of the Publick.

Obs. One would think it needless, *Roger*, to say any more than I have already done, that they are contain'd in the Declarations of War by the respective Confederates; but since our Frenchify'd Clubs are more used to empty Bottles than to turn over Books, I shall tell you, that all these Evidences are to be found in the general Collection of Treatys, printed in 1710, for *Andrew Bell* in *Cornhil*, and *E. Sanger* at the Post-House in *Fleetstreet*.

Countrym.

Countrym. Well, Maſter, that's fair Dealing to tell them where they may ſee the Vouchers; Had our Faction been as willing to be informed of Matters of Fact as they have been to receive falſe Accuſations againſt our Allies, they would never have brought upon themſelves the Guilt of Condemning People without a Hearing. But, Maſter, ſince we have ſaid more on this Subject than ſome People will care to hear, let's turn to another. Pray give me your Thoughts about this Mortality which ſtill threatens the *French* Royal Family, and has now ſo lately ſwept off the *Pretender*'s Siſter.

Obſ. I told you before, *Roger*, that God ſeem'd to have taken the Quarrel with the *French* Tyrant into his own Hand. This I take to be a freſh Proof of it. We have heard but very lately, that he intended to have made his Bargains with that ſuppoſed Princeſs, in order to have ſtrengthened himſelf, and to have procured a new Race of Popiſh Pretenders to our Crown, but you ſee God has diſappointed him. The *French* King and his Faction may trick with Men, but they can't trick with Heaven. Providence ſeems to be declaring aloud, that tho' they will not ſee, they ſhall ſee that *the Wrath of God is gone out againſt them, and that it is he who rules in the Kingdom of Men, and giveth it to whomſoever he will*; *That all his Works are Truth and his Ways Judgment, and thoſe that walk in Pride he is able to abaſe.* This *Nebuchadnezzar* was forced to own, after he had been pull'd down from his Throne and ſent to Graze among Beaſts, who are the fitteſt Company for Tyrants and their Britiſh Abettors. But God ſeems to have given up *Lewis* XIV. with his ſlaviſh Subjects and his *Britiſh* Adherents to a Reprobate Sence, that as their Hearts are equally hardned with thoſe of *Pharoah*, his natural Slaviſh Vaſſals, and his Traiterous *Hebrew* Abettors; they may be alſo equal in Puniſhment, their Tyrant and his Hoſt Drowned in the *Red-Sea*, and our Rebellious *Hereditary-Right* Men ſwallowed up like *Corah* and his Brethren in the Bowels of the Earth.

Countrym. But why Rebellious *Hereditary-Right* Men, Maſter; they reckon themſelves the only Loyal People.

Obſ. So did *Corah* and his Aſſociates, *Roger*, who were *no fewer than* 250 *Princes famous in the Congregation, and Men of Renown*, as we are inform'd, *Numb.* xvi. 2. They charged *Moſes* and *Aaron* with taking too much upon them, and lifting themſelves up above the Congregation, which in plain *Engliſh* was to call them Uſurpers, and this Charge was founded upon what they call'd a Lineal Deſcent or Title to the Civil and Spiritual Government of the *Iſraelites*, which was lodged in the Heads of that Conſpiracy, as is very well made out in a late Book call'd *The Hiſtory of Hereditary-Right*; Printed for *J. Baker*, at the *Black-Boy* in *Pater-noſter Row*: And tho' there might be ſome Truth to the pretence with reſpect to the Genealogy, yet *Moſes* calls them Rebels, and with very juſt Reaſon, ſince they rebelled againſt God's own Inſtitution, in appointing *Moſes* and *Aaron* to be the Leaders of his People, without any Regard to thoſe Mens Pretences of *Hereditary-Right*, who were for returning again to the Slavery of *Egypt*, rather than they would live under a Revolution and Legal Government.

Countrym. Well, Maſter; But how is this applicable to the Caſe of our preſent Murmurers againſt the *Hanover* Succeſſion.

Obſ. God ſeems to make the Application by his Providence, *Roger*, and has defended the Revolution, upon which the Succeſſion is founded by a Chain of Miracles. The Armys that were raiſed to oppoſe it in *Great-Britain* and *Ireland* vaniſhed like Smoak before the Wind, or met with their Graves in the Field where they took Arms againſt it. The *French* King's numerous and well diſciplin'd Hoſts, which he rais'd partly in Defence of the ſame Cauſe, as appears by her Majeſty's Declaration of War, have ſunk by Squadrons and Battallions at a time, before the Lord of Hoſts who conducted the Confederate Armys; and that the Hand of Man may be leſs ſeen in it, God has now lopt off the *French* King's Succeſſors one after another, till he is left like an Old Trunk with a very few Branches, and theſe alſo ſeem to be threatned. What Providence has lately done in the St. *Germains* Family we have heard, and if credible Advices from *France* may be relyed upon, the *Pretender* himſelf is either Dead or paſt Hopes of Recovery; So that all theſe things conſidered together, are to me evident Proofs that God is declaring himſelf for the *Hanover* Succeſſion, which was ſettled on purpoſe to preſerve our Religion and Liberty, at the very ſame Time that our Common Enemy abroad and ſo many Traytors at home, are endeavouring to ſap the Foundations of it, by ſtriking at the Laws and Treatys upon which it is Founded: and to their Shame be it ſaid, as the Sons of *Levi* were the chief in *Corah*'s Rebellion, too many of our *Levites* at preſent do publickly own their Enmity to the *Hanover* Succeſſion, tho' the Security of the Church, does under God depend upon it, whenever it ſhall pleaſe him to viſit us with the Death of Her Majeſty.

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